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Attachment to Z-15243/82

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NPIC/IEG (6/82)
8 JUNE 1982**FRENCH 155MM GCT SELF-PROPELLED GUNS**
BAGHDAD BARRACKS SCHOOL CORPS
BATTALION HEADQUARTERS DEPOT RASHID, IRAQ

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1. (S/D) **SIGNIFICANCE:** FIRST IDENTIFICATION OF FRENCH 155MM GCT SELF-PROPELLED GUN IN IRAQ.2. (S/D) **REMARKS:** EIGHT FRENCH 155MM GCT SELF-PROPELLED GUNS (SPG) WERE PARKED IN THE ARMORED VEHICLE STORAGE AREA AT BAGHDAD BARRACKS SCHOOL CORPS BATTALION HEADQUARTERS DEPOT, RASHID. THESE SPG ARRIVED AT THIS INSTALLATION BETWEEN _____. THIS INSTALLATION IS A MAJOR ARMS TRANSSHIPMENT DEPOT IN IRAQ.

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(S/D) THE FRENCH-PRODUCED 155MM GCT SPG IS BASED ON A MODIFIED AMX-30 MAIN BATTLE TANK CHASSIE. THIS CHASSIE IS EQUIPPED WITH A NEW TURRET AND REFITTED WITH A 155MM GUN WITH AUTOMATIC AND MANUAL LOADING SYSTEMS. FIRST PRODUCTION MODELS OF THE GCT WERE DELIVERED TO THE FRENCH ARMY IN 1978.

(S/D) THE 155MM GCT SPG HAS IMPROVED ACCURACY, INCREASED FIRE POWER, EXTENDED FIRING RANGE, AND REDUCED TIME FOR IN-BATTERY AND OUT-OF-BATTERY SERVICE OVER ANY SPG CURRENTLY IN THE IRAQI INVENTORY. _____

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3. (S) _____ COORDINATES 33-17-35N 044-28-18E

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4. (U) COLLATERAL REFERENCE: JANE'S ARMOR AND ARTILLERY, 1979-1980

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